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FLOOR DEBATE

May 20, 2005

LB 117, 478A

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 478A advances. We now move on to Select File, 2005 senator priority bill, Bourne division. Mr. Clerk, LB 117.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 117 was discussed yesterday on Select File. Enrollment and Review amendments were considered and adopted, as was amendment by Senator Bourne. Senator Beutler had offered AM1655. That is the amendment pending. (Legislative Journal page 1672.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, would you like to inform the body what your amendment contains?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, I'm sure the members of the Legislature recall that we were on the electronic database idea. This is the concept that was presented to you yesterday that would require the State Patrol to develop a complete plan for an electronic log of sales and to report back to the Judiciary Committee next year on that plan. And if then the Legislature approves the funding for moving ahead with this particular concept, then we would do this next year. But the amendment requires that a plan be developed. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Open for discussion on adoption of AM1655. Senator Beutler, there are no lights on. Did you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I do wish to close, Senator Cudaback. There was some information in the paper today that troubled me, and it seemed to me that it had some relationship to what we're doing today in a broader sense. So I want to talk about that a little bit. But I want to let you know that I recognize that what I'm about to say is not the perfect political speech for trying to gather your votes on this amendment, but it just seems like something I need to say. But I have this feeling that we're becoming a more fearful person, a more fearful society, not really trusting our own judgments anymore to weigh the good and the bad in everything, and that we are more often seeking refuge in ideologies or in rigid defining lines rather than embracing the broader concept of the common good or of the greater good.